

Boulder Ranger District
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United States Department of Agriculture



Mount Audubon Trail #913

Difficulty: Moderate to Difficult

Trail Use: Heavy

Length: Mitchell Lake Trailhead (TH) to Mount Audubon - 3.8 miles. DISTANCE IS ONE-WAY.

Elevation: 10,500 feet at the Mitchell Lake TH, 11,340 feet at Beaver Creek/Mount Audubon Trail Intersection; 13,223 feet at the top of Mount Audubon.

Open To: Hiking. Groups of 12 or fewer. Pets must be on a hand-held leash at all times.

Access

- From Nederland, drive 13 miles north on Colorado Highway 72 to the town of Ward.
- Look for a sign for the Brainard Lake Recreation Area and turn west onto County Road 102.
- Travel to the fee station and west of Brainard Lake. A signed side-road leads to the Mitchell Lake TH parking area. The Beaver Creek Trail begins on the north side of this lot.

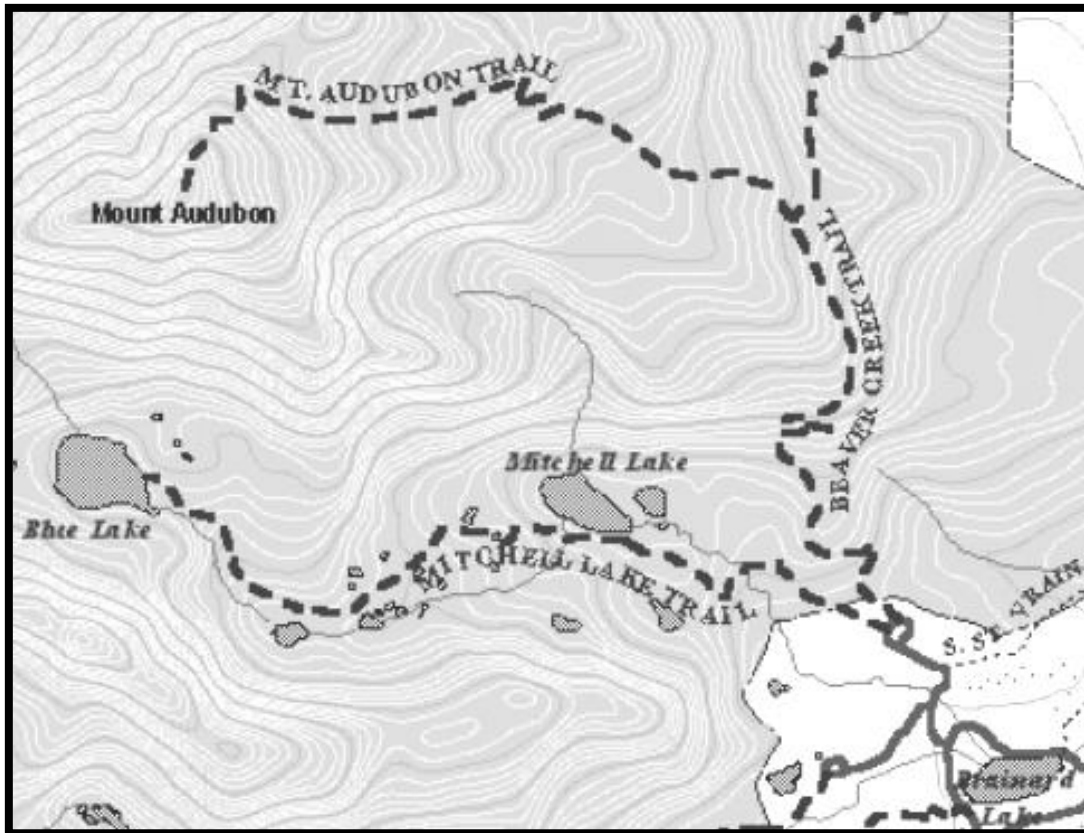
Trail Highlights

- The Beaver Creek Trail enters the Indian Peaks Wilderness and climbs through the trees for 1.7 miles. Here, the Mount Audubon Trail turns left (west).
- Now above timberline, the Mount Audubon Trail continues to climb in a consistent manner with the exception of two somewhat steeper sections near the middle and end of the trail.
- The developed trail ends at the saddle where there is a view down into the Coney Lake drainage. For the final ½ mile and 600 vertical feet, follow the piles of rock (cairns) up the talus to the summit.

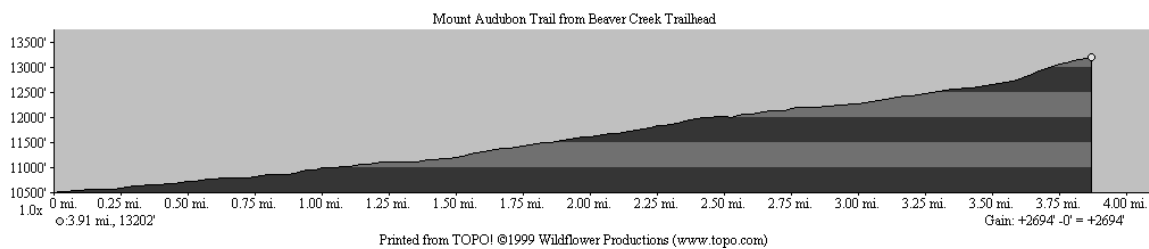
Important Information

- This is the first trail west of Brainard Lake to become passable in the Spring. It can be hiked without special equipment in mid to late June. It is best to get an early start. Lightning and thunderstorms are common in the early afternoon.
- CAMPFIRE ARE NOT ALLOWED. CAMPING IS ONLY PERMISSIBLE IN THIS ZONE BETWEEN DECEMBER 1 AND APRIL 30. FROM MAY 1 THROUGH NOVEMBER 30, THIS AREA IS DAY-USE ONLY. Additional permit requirements exist for large (8-12 persons) and organized groups. Groups of more than 12 are not permitted. Packstock restrictions apply.
- The Brainard Lake Road is open seasonally. During these months, a vehicle fee applies for trailheads located within the Brainard Lake Recreation Area.

Trail Map & Profile



This map is intended as a general guide only and not for actual land navigation.



For More Information:

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